

AMENDMENTS TO LB 690

(Amendments to Standing Committee amendments, AM0705)

Introduced by Stuhr, 24

1           1. Strike the original sections and all amendments  
2 thereto and insert the following sections:

3           Section 1. Sections 1 to 6 of this act shall be known and  
4 may be cited as the Career Education Partnership Act.

5           Sec. 2. The Legislature finds that:

6           (1) As defined in the Essential Education Policy of the  
7 State Board of Education, all students in Nebraska should have  
8 equitable opportunities to obtain knowledge and skills to meet the  
9 academic, civic, and economic demands of the twenty-first century;

10          (2) Schools need resources to provide programs for  
11 students to learn information and communication skills, thinking  
12 and problem solving skills, and interpersonal and self-directional  
13 skills for them to be productive and successful in their work,  
14 family, and community;

15          (3) Schools need resources to rethink the high school  
16 experience and to provide programs that will motivate all students,  
17 including high-risk students, to graduate from high school;

18          (4) There is a need to establish strategies and programs  
19 that develop skills which enable young people to complete high  
20 school, pursue postsecondary education, find jobs, and remain in  
21 their communities; and

22          There is a need to prepare young adults for employment

1 opportunities in the State of Nebraska.

2           Sec. 3. For purposes of the Career Education Partnership  
3 Act, career education includes curriculum, work ethics, general  
4 employability skills, technical skills, occupational specific  
5 skills, and applied learning that integrates academic knowledge  
6 and vocational skills taught through the following course areas:  
7 Agriculture education; business education; career education; family  
8 and consumer sciences; health occupations; industrial technology  
9 education; marketing education; and trade and industrial education.

10           Sec. 4. The purpose of the Career Education Partnership  
11 Act is to support schools in Nebraska in continuing and enhancing  
12 career education programs through state grants. The act shall:

13           (1) Identify and explore options for Nebraska Career  
14 Education implementation in different sizes of schools;

15           (2) Collaborate with ongoing school improvement efforts;

16           (3) Create models of collaboration between career and  
17 academic education;

18           (4) Encourage relationships and coordination in support  
19 of entrepreneurship education;

20           (5) Develop partnerships between public secondary and  
21 postsecondary institutions; and

22           (6) Develop partnerships with business and industry based  
23 on Nebraska workforce development needs.

24           Sec. 5. (1) The State Department of Education shall  
25 establish and administer a competitive grant process to provide  
26 grants to a collaborative project of two or more public schools  
27 with an educational service unit, or a public postsecondary

1 institution, and an advisory group related to the purpose of  
2 the Career Education Partnership Act. For purposes of this  
3 section, an advisory group means a local or regional economic  
4 development board, a local or regional chamber of commerce board,  
5 or a group specifically designed to support career education and  
6 entrepreneurial activities or programs.

7 (2) Grant money shall be used to provide for equitable  
8 opportunities for students in a minimum of two of the following  
9 areas:

10 (a) Assist schools in developing academic competencies,  
11 technical competencies, and basic work skill foundations for  
12 students;

13 (b) Assist schools in developing curriculum;

14 (c) Assist schools in employing certified teachers  
15 related to the purposes of the act; and

16 (d) Assist schools in providing professional development  
17 for certified teachers who provide course instruction.

18 (3) Grants shall not exceed seventy-five thousand dollars  
19 per collaborative project. Grant recipients shall have two years to  
20 expend the grant funds. No applicant shall receive funding for more  
21 than one project at a time. The State Department of Education shall  
22 act as the fiduciary agent for the grants.

23 Sec. 6. It is the intent of the Legislature to  
24 appropriate four hundred fifty thousand dollars each fiscal year to  
25 carry out the Career Education Partnership Act.